

SOME 81

OBSERVATIONS

Made upon the

Serpent Stones,

Imported from the *INDIES*:

SHEWING

Their Admirable Virtues in Curing
Malignant Spotted Feavers.

Peckin
Written by a Countrey Physitian to Dr. Bur-
well, President of the Colledge of Physiti-
ans in *London*.

L O N D O N,

Printed in the Year 1694.

SOME
OBSERVATIONS
Made upon the
Serpent Stones,

SHEWING
Their Admirable Virtues in Curing
Malignant Spotted Feavers.
In a LETTER, &c.

SIR,

I Received your Letter of Thanks for the
laſt Specifick I communicated to you,
and that hath proved ſo ſucceſſful, that
I find you very importunate with me to ac-
quaint you with what I have found moſt
effectual againſt Malignant Spotted Feavers.

I am sorry to hear that *London* Physicians are so often disappointed in the use of vulgar Medicines. The great Dr. *Sidenham* in his Discourse of Feavors, tells the World his Art is defective in that Distemper; and that if any Man can be found who can propose a better Method, or Communicate a good Specifick, for the more effectual Cure of that Distemper which carryeth so many thousand to their Graves, he will prove himself a good Citizen.

For my own part I declare, I knew no better Remedy than the *Indian Serpent Stones*, for it powerfully expels Poysons of all sorts, both externally and internally applyed, it resists Putrefaction, promotes insensible transpiration, raiseth the Vital Spirits, comforts the Heart, and gives a new Fermentation to the Blood, and helps Nature to cast off all Malignity. I have found it more serviceable than any sort of Alexipharmics.

Mr. *Boyl* in his Discourse of Specifick Remedies,

medies, gives very strange Accounts of the Extraordinary Virtues of these Stoney Concretions, laid to be found in the Heads of *Indian* Serpents, and particularly of an Experiment he made himself upon a Cat bitten by an enraged Viper, which caused its Tongue and Head to swell, and made the Cat raving mad, yet upon giving it a little of the Powder of this Stone inwardly, it had recovered, had not the rude People killed it by Violence. He confesseth that there are many of them Counterfeits, and such were those that Mounſieur *Redi* made Experiments upon. He also tells us, that an Eminent Phylitian of the Colledge performed a very great Cure by the External Application of one of the Stones.

I was sent for unto a young Man who had a very dangerous Feavor, and all the Symptoms of Malignity very well known to Phylitians; I gave the usual Remedies prescribed in that Case; his Distemper threatend every Day more and more, and all Friends despaired of Recovery; at length I gave

gave him a Tincture drawn out of these Stones, with the Powder in substance, and it powerfully expels all the Malignity by gentle breathing Sweats, and the Patient speedily recovered, and gained his Strength beyond Humane Expectation.

An Ancient Gentlewoman who had a high Malignant Feavor, being first surprized with a Rigor, and shivering Coldness in her Back, and afterwards a hor. burning Fit, which lasted many Hours without any intermission, a low weak Pulse, cold, clammy, faint Sweats, Purple Spots in the Skin, little or no Thirst, a pale thin Urine, and very delirious, but no Complaint of any Pains in the Head, or other parts ; a Hitch-cough, frequent Sighing and Dozeing ; I finding all Remedies fruitless, gave this Specifick, and found a speedy Recovery attend it.

I could tell you of several Families in our Countrey that have been seized with these Malignant Feavors, that have been secured from the Dangers, by the Use of this Specifick

sick Remedy : But I find People generally displeased when Physitians mention their Names in print, if it be in *English*; they are prone to suspect the World never thinks them sound afterwards, and therefore I omit Names.

I knew one Man about Fifty, who was seized as if he had been infected with the Plague, had Swellings under his Arms, and all other Pestilential symptoms upon him; and only giving him a few Drops of a Mixture made with the Powder of this Stone, he was restor'd to Health in a miraculous manner.

I could Name one Patient who was saved from Death, when two in the same Family dyed of the Spotted Feaver, after they had taken large Quantities of *Bezoar* and *Goa Stones*.

I can truly say with Dr. *Sidenham*, in his Discourse of Pestilential Feavors, that I have delivered faithfully all things relating to Practice, and never propos'd any thing but what I had often and sufficiently try'd; and when

I come to Dye, I hope I shall have a chearful Witness within my own Breast I have done my Duty.

FINIS.

